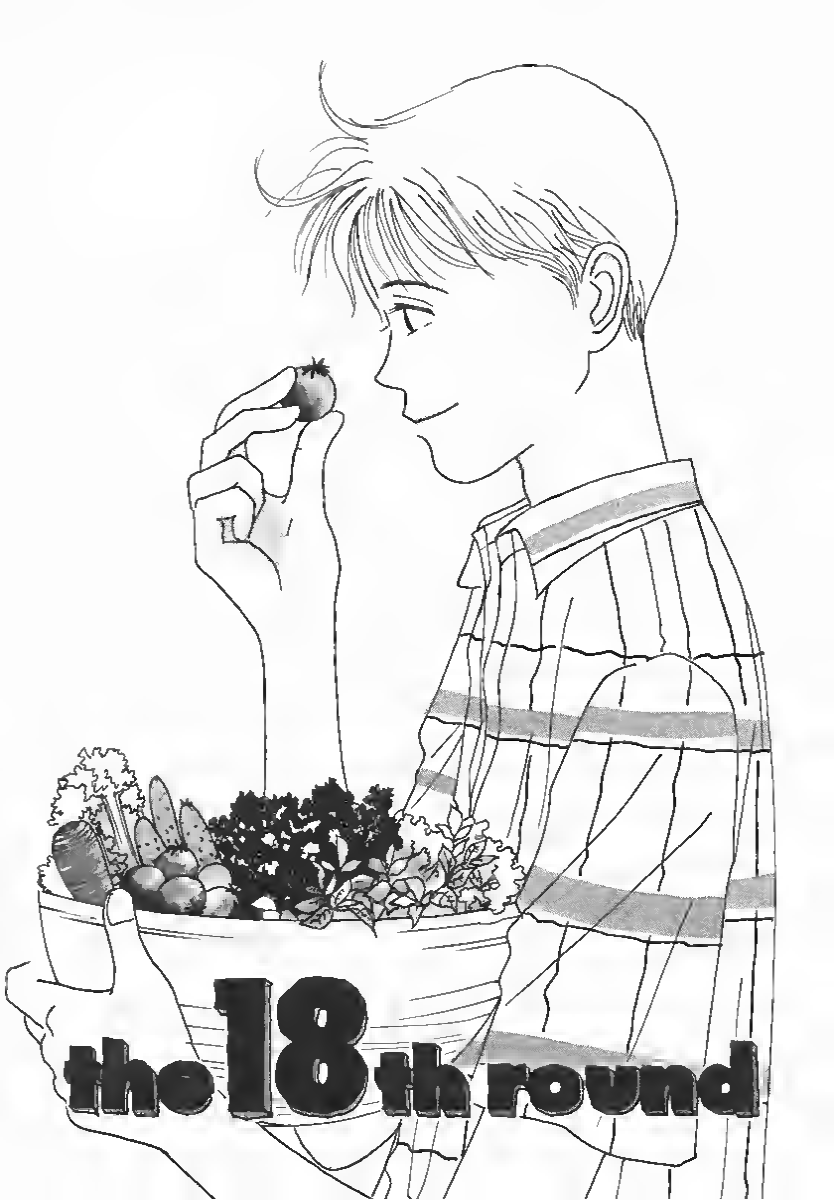
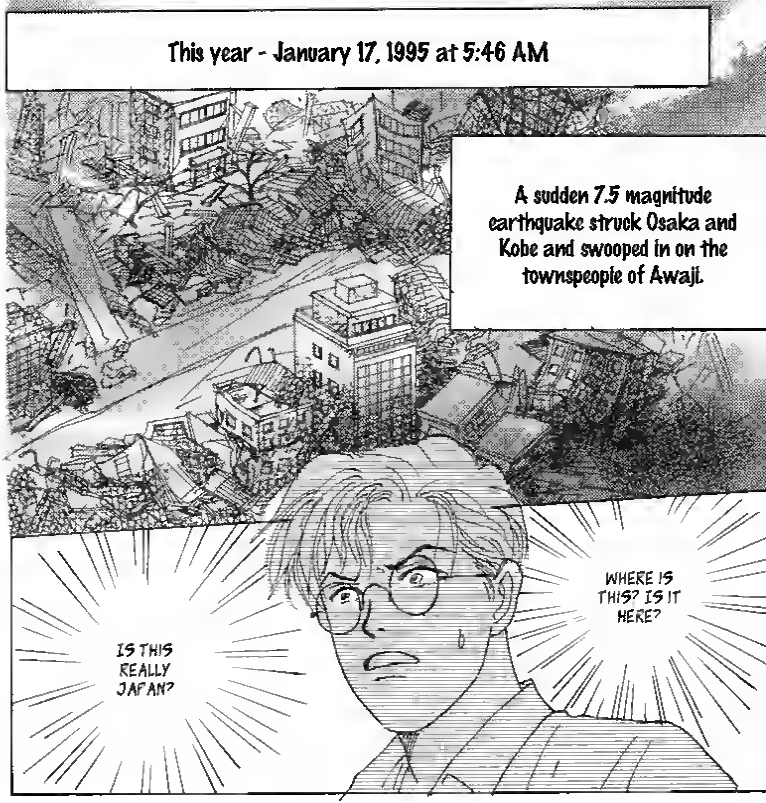
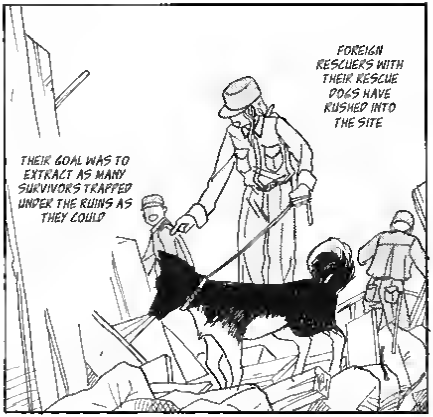

the 18th round

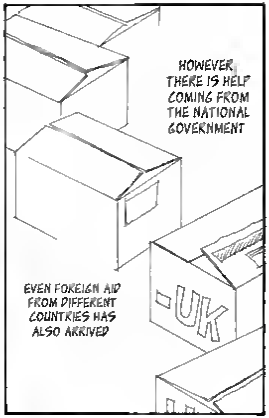

This year - January 17, 1995 at 5:46 AM
A sudden 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck Osaka and Kobe and swooped in on the townspeople of Awaji.
IS THIS REALLY JAPAN?
WHERE IS THIS? IS IT HERE?

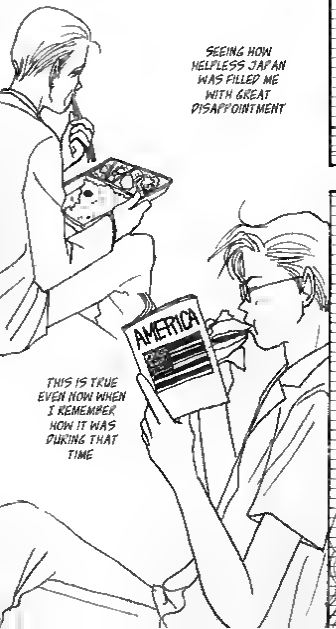
Sosuke Tanaka

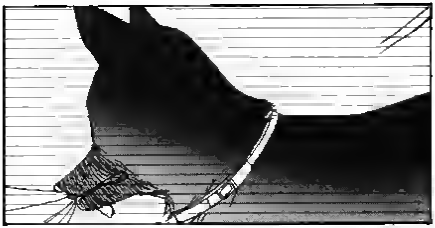
But how come in such a devastating time you can only see one chopper flying in the sky?
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE JAPAN SELF-DEFENSE FORCE?
IT DOESN'T LOOK MUCH DIFFERENT FROM THE AFTERMATH OF THE TOKYO AIR RAID.
THE SKIES SHOULD BE COVERED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF HELICOPTERS
MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD SEND IN THEIR RESCUE UNITS IN FULL FORCE
AND YET... ROVING BICYCLES ARE BETTER THAN NOTHING!
NOT EVEN ROVING BICYCLES.
BUT 5 HOURS HAVE ALREADY PASSED AND THERE IS STILL NO SIGN OF EVEN A SINGLE UNIT OF OUR DEFENSE FORCE.
AHHH!

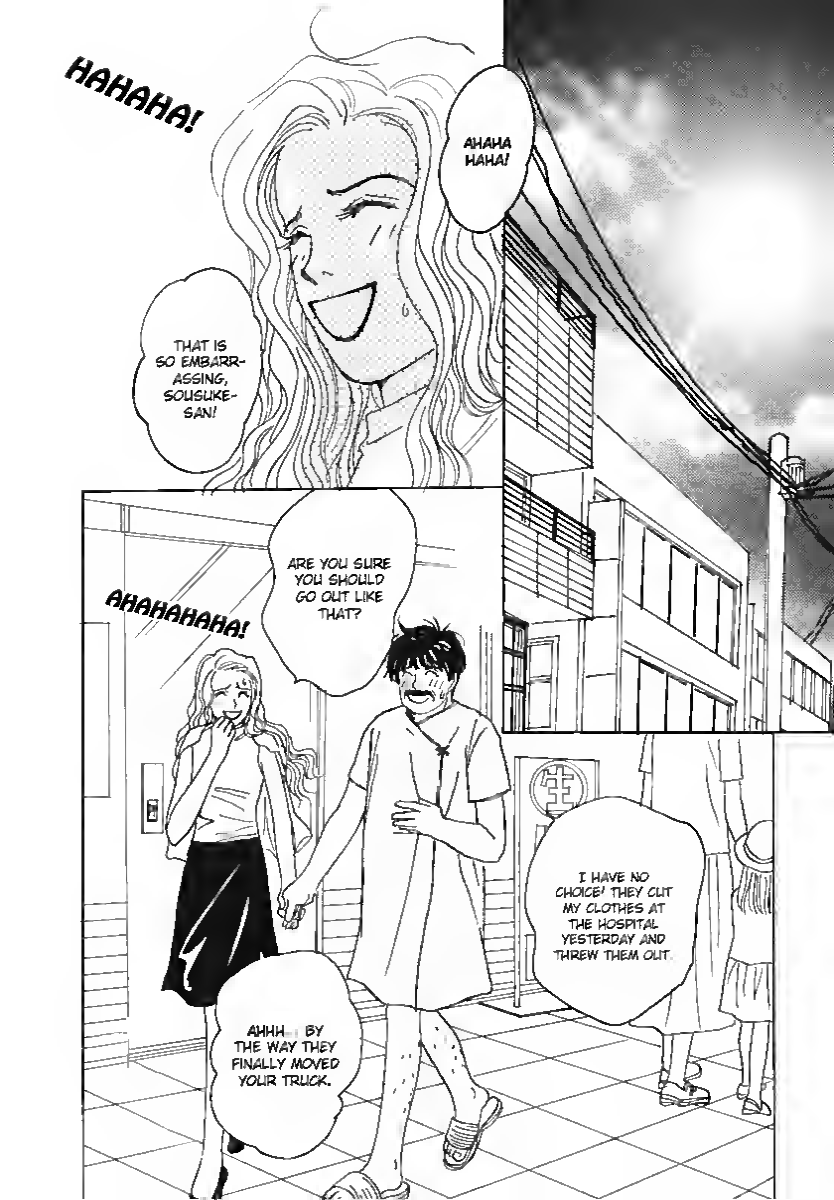
JAPAN WAS CONSIDERED A HIGH-TECH NATION, AND THE GOVERNMENT EVEN HAD AN EARTHQUAKE DISASTER RESPONSE SYSTEM ESTABLISHED.
ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, IF AN EARTHQUAKE STRUCK, IT WOULD TAKE ONLY 2 HOURS TO MOBILIZE EVERYONE AND HAVE EVERYTHING IN PLACE
BUT DURING THE ACTUAL EARTHQUAKE, IN THOSE 2 HOURS THE PRIME MINISTER WAS STILL FIGURING OUT WHAT TO DO
IN THE MEANTIME THE MEMBERS OF THE SELF-DEFENSE UNIT WERE ALL "PALE-FACED"
WHY THE HELL ARE WE STILL HERE?! WHY HAVEN'T WE BEEN DISPATCHED?
AND IN A PANIC WAITING FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S COMMAND!
THAT OLD MAN*!
EVEN THE LOCAL OFFICIALS SHOULD BE TAKING ACTION! WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY DOING?
T/N: Referring to the Prime Minister
FATALITIES HAVE ALREADY REACHED 200?
BY ACTION THEY MEAN DISPATCHING A SINGLE HELICOPTER
EHHHH?!
TO ONLY BRING VICTIMS ONIGIRI FROM SEVEN-ELEVEN
IT WAS ONLY AFTER 6 HOURS WHEN IT WAS ALREADY NOON WHEN ACTION WAS FINALLY TAKEN
T/N: Onigiri, rice balls wrapped in seaweed. Seven-Eleven, the convenience store


FOREIGN RESCUERS WITH THEIR RESCUE DOGS HAVE RUSHED INTO THE SITE
THEIR GOAL WAS TO EXTRACT AS MANY SURVIVORS TRAPPED UNDER THE RUINS AS THEY COULD

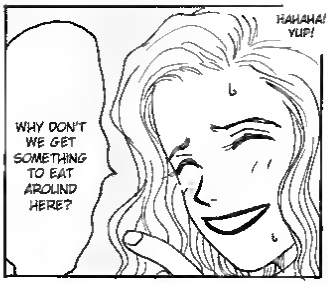

HOWEVER, THERE IS HELP COMING FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
EVEN FOREIGN AID FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES HAS ALSO ARRIVED
-UK


SEEING HOW HELPLESS JAPAN WAS FILLED ME WITH GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT
AMERICA
THIS IS TRUE EVEN NOW WHEN I REMEMBER HOW IT WAS DURING THAT TIME




HAHAHA!
AHAHA HAHA!
THAT IS SO EMBARR-ASSING, SOUSUKE-SAN!
ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD GO OUT LIKE THAT?
AHAHAHAHA!
I HAVE NO CHOICE! THEY CUT MY CLOTHES AT THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY AND THREW THEM OUT.
AHHH... BY THE WAY THEY FINALLY MOVED YOUR TRUCK.

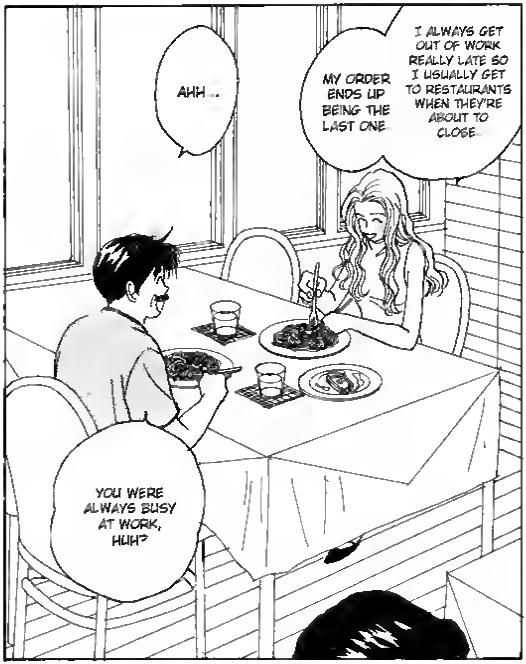
YEP, REALLY, REALLY!
REALLY?
WELL, I REMEMBER SEEING A VERY BRIGHT LIGHT SHINING FROM ABOVE.
AFTER ALL, NORMALLY NO ONE WOULD HAVE SURVIVED A VEHICULAR HEAD-ON COLLISION.
AHH... I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
I COULD HAVE DIED.
SFX - HAHAHAHA!
ST - PRAYER FOR THE DEAD
ギャ～
SOUSUKE-SAN! PLEASE STOP IT!
AND THEN I FELT MYSELF FLOATING IN THE AIR. WHEN I LOOKED DOWN, I COULD SEE MY BODY ON THE GROUND.
SFX - KYAAAAH!
AHHH....
YOSHIKO!
OH... OUCH!
OUCH!

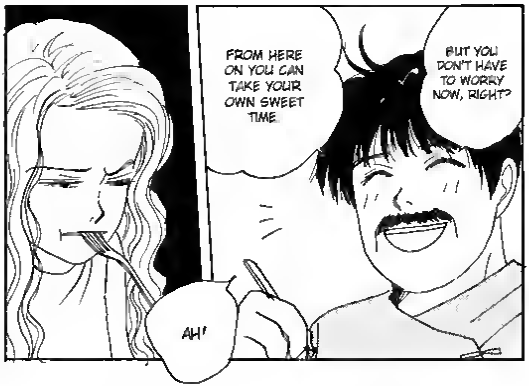

HAHAHA! YUP!
WHY DON'T WE GET SOMETHING TO EAT AROUND HERE?

EH?

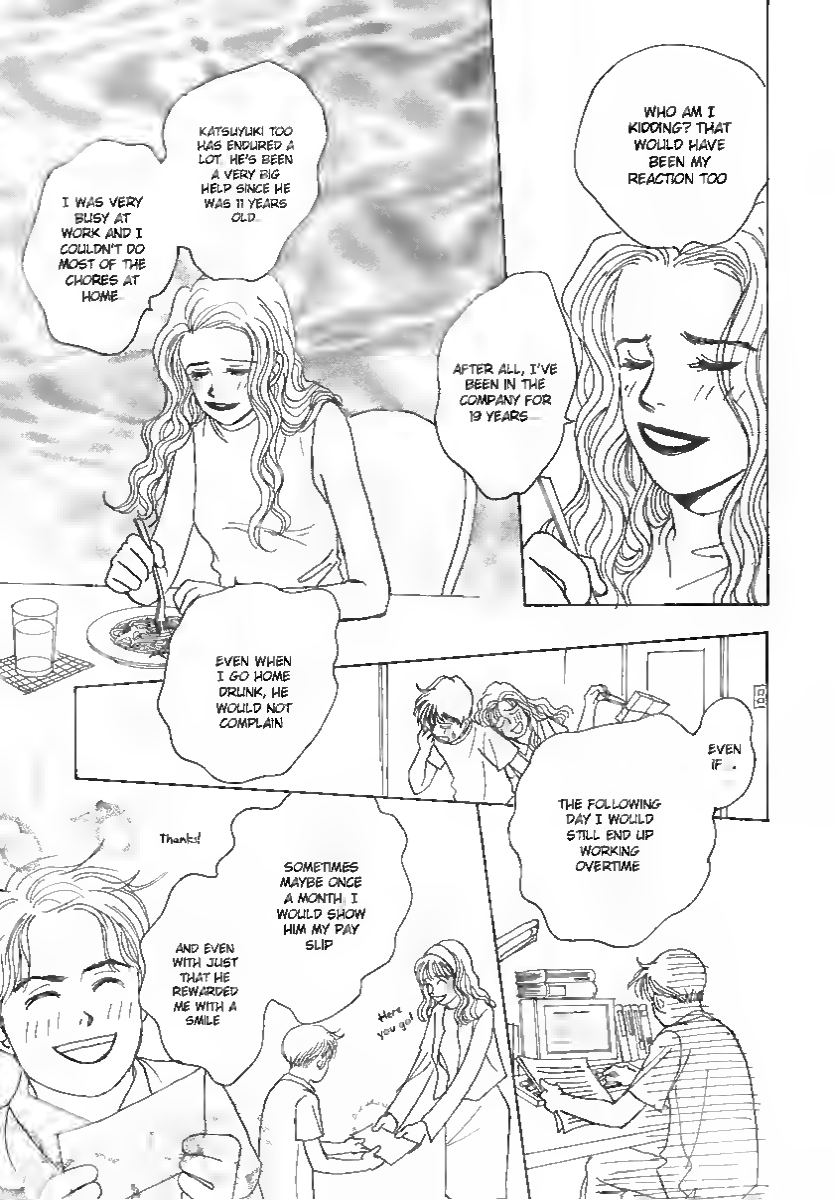
I THINK WE SHOULD GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL SO YOU CAN GET YOUR MEDICINE
YEAH, WHY DON'T WE GO BACK NOW?
IT'S OKAY
IT'S NOT TOO PAINFUL

OO OH!
I THINK I'VE EATEN HERE ONCE BEFORE!


AHH...
I ALWAYS GET OUT OF WORK REALLY LATE SO I USUALLY GET TO RESTAURANTS WHEN THEY'RE ABOUT TO CLOSE...
MY ORDER ENDS UP BEING THE LAST ONE...
YOU WERE ALWAYS BUSY AT WORK, HUH?


FROM HERE ON YOU CAN TAKE YOUR OWN SWEET TIME...
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY NOW, RIGHT?
AH!

I'M SORRY!
OH, THAT IS TRUE
HAHA!
OH I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MY BEING FIRED FROM THE COMPANY HAS LEAKED OUT
I GUESS EVERYONE KNOWS
YOU'RE RIGHT...
NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT BEING TOO BUSY
HA HA HA
YOSHIKO-SAN...
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO HIDE THINGS FROM US
ESPECIALLY FROM ME.
WELL, IF I HAD TOLD YOU,
YOU WOULD HAVE SAID, 'WHAT THE HELL IS THAT ABOUT?'
"HAHAHA" RIGHT?
HA HA HA HA!
EHH?


WHO AM I KIDDING? THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN MY REACTION TOO
AFTER ALL, I'VE BEEN IN THE COMPANY FOR 19 YEARS...
KATSUYUKI TOO HAS ENDURED A LOT. HE'S BEEN A VERY BIG HELP SINCE HE WAS 11 YEARS OLD.
I WAS VERY BUSY AT WORK AND I COULDN'T DO MOST OF THE CHORES AT HOME.
EVEN WHEN I GO HOME DRUNK, HE WOULD NOT COMPLAIN
EVEN IF...
THE FOLLOWING DAY I WOULD STILL END UP WORKING OVERTIME
SOMETIMES MAYBE ONCE A MONTH, I WOULD SHOW HIM MY PAY SLIP
AND EVEN WITH JUST THAT HE REWARDED ME WITH A SMILE
Thanks!
Here you go!

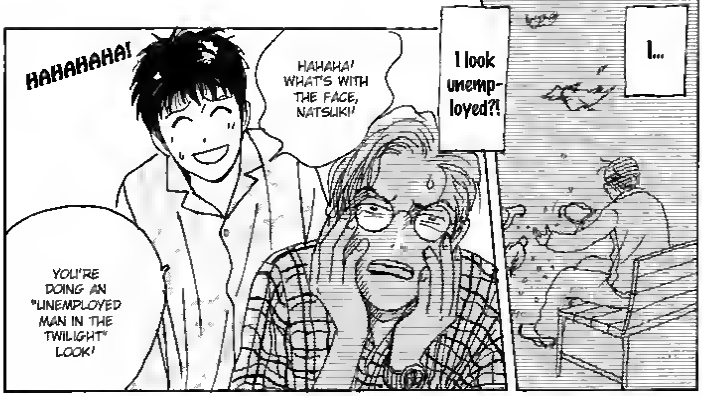
YOSHIKO-SAN... YOUR HAIR IS GETTING IN THE FOOD
AHHH!
HOW CAN I TELL THE KID WHAT HAPPENED?
UWAAAAAAH!
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.
HEY, WHY DON'T WE BUY THIS INSTEAD TO BRING WITH US TO THE HOSPITAL?
ICE CREAM!
NOT AGAIN. YOUR TUMMY WILL ACT FUNNY, AMI!
DIDN'T YOU JUST EAT AT HOME?
OH!
IT'S KATSUYUKI!!

SHEEZ
I KNOW...
YOU LIKE ICE CREAM TOO, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT FOR ME! IT'S FOR US TO BRING TO THE HOSPITAL!
IT'LL MELT.
WE CAN BUY DRY ICE AS WELL TO KEEP IT FROZEN.
ONE
I WONDER WHAT THAT IS ALL ABOUT
IT'S KINDA CREEPY.
HE ALWAYS GETS WHEREVER WE GO TO FIRST.
SIGH
THAT MAY BE TRUE BUT...
WELCOME!

IT SEEMS LIKE ALL THE WHILE I'VE BEEN MAKING A FOOL OF MYSELF
PING!
POING! PING!
IT'S LIKE THE PACHINKO BALL IS HAPPILY AT PLAY
AND THAT IN ITSELF HAS MADE ME A REAL FOOL
WHAT IS THIS?
I'VE BEEN REFLECTING ON A LOT OF THINGS LATELY
MODE SALON YASHUKO

T/N - A popular gambling machine in Japan like a slot machine

NATSUKI! ENJOYING UNEMPLOY-MENT?
WHAT THE ...?!
IS THIS WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE?
PING! POING!
SFX - AHAHAHAHA!
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT? UNEMP-LOYED...
JUST KIDDING!
WELL, IT'S JUST WHAT YOU LOOKED LIKE
IT'S YOUR BEST FRIEND!
YOU'RE SITTING HERE IN THE PARK NEAR TO AN EMPLOYMENT CENTER, DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING BUT THINKING
SFX - HAHAHAHA!


HAHAHAHA!
HAHAHA! WHAT'S WITH THE FACE, NATSUKI!
I look unemployed?!
I...
YOU'RE DOING AN "UNEMPLOYED MAN IN THE TWILIGHT" LOOK!

WE'RE STILL BURSTING WITH YOUTH!
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE 17 YEARS OLD
What a weirdo!
Who is that guy?
RIGHT?
DIORAMA!
HAHAHAHA! HAHAHAHA!
NATSUKI, IF YOU'RE FREE LET'S HANG OUT!
LET'S START BY OPENING THIS BAG. I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE
LOOK!

WAH HH...
YOU'RE ACTING SO WEIRDLY
NAT-SUKI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'LL BE TROUBLE-SOME FOR THE OTHERS.
AHH!
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY DREAM TO TURN MY HOBBY INTO SOMETHING WORTHWHILE.
THIS TIME I WANTED TO MAKE A MINIATURE EDO
WITH A "VERY SMUG MISTER ON GUARD" AS A THEME.
AHH...
DREAM?
THAT'S RIGHT IT'S MY DREAM.

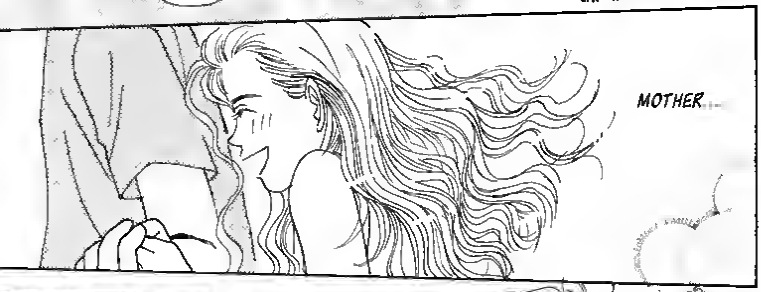
20
OH!
ISN'T IT YOSHIMATSU-SAN?
HEY!
Hahaha! You think I'm weird?
ME TOO I WANNA FALL IN LOVE
IT'S HARU, RIGHT?
SFX - HAHAHA!
NO, IT'S ARIYOSHI.
HEY, IT'S AKI-KUN!
SFX - KICK
スコー
アハハハハ
SFX - HAHAHAHA!
SURE! HERE YOU GO!
CAN I HAVE SOME?
THESE TWO DON'T HAVE A CARE IN THE WORLD
LOOKING AT THEM, HE'S LIKE A PUPPY

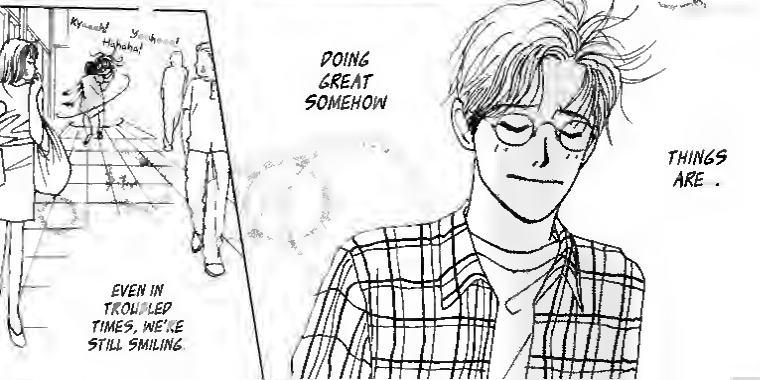
SFX - AHAHAHA!
SO LONG!
HOW MUCH?
What?!
OKAY OKAY. NO PROBLEM!
EHH..
Who is this?
OH, NO!
ARE YOU A FOREIGNER?
うおおお
MY EYES!
Hey are you alright?
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
Oh well
LET'S GO! LET'S GO!
CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME OF THAT STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM?
SFX - SHOVES
ドパン。
HERE YOU GO!

OUCH!
HEY!
KATSU-YUKI!?
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY STOP?
Singing
Singing
WHAT ARE THOSE TWO DOING?
AHHH...
THEY' RE HOLDING HANDS! AND LAUGHING! AND SKIPPING! AND SINGING!

... IT'S GREEN!
Oh well
AHHH
AH!
HMM MM?

SFX - HAHAHA!

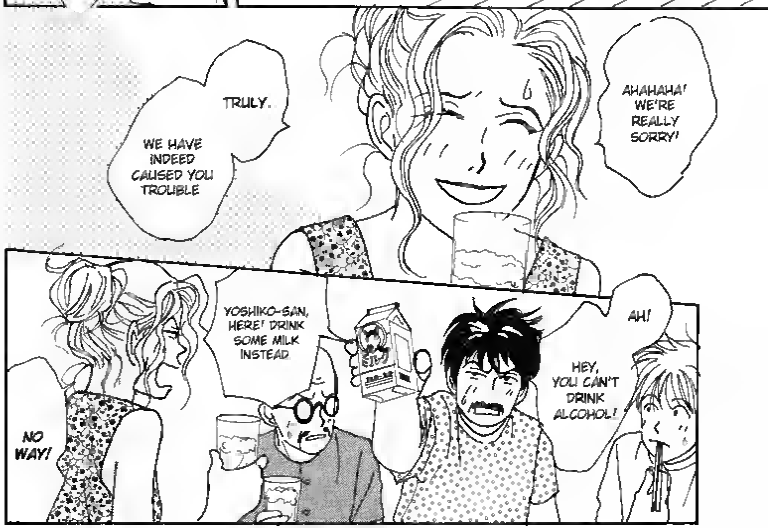

MOTHER...

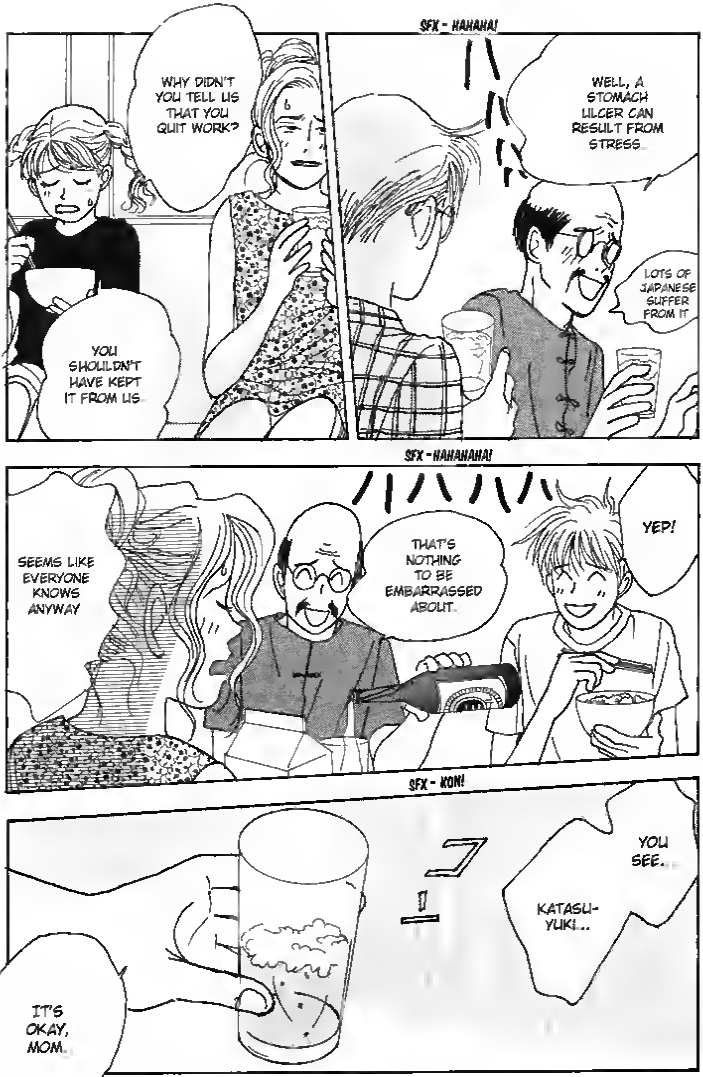

Hahaha!
EVEN IN TROUBLED TIMES, WE'RE STILL SMILING.
DOING GREAT SOMEHOW
THINGS ARE .

WE REALLY PLANNED TO GO HOME RIGHT AWAY
OOOPS! SORRY, EVERYONE!
IT'S NOT ALWAYS THAT WE HAVE GOOD WEATHER SO WE TOOK THE CHANCE RIGHT AWAY TO GO TO THE BEACH
HAHA...
HAHA!
THE BEACH?!
YOU MEAN YOU AND DAD WENT OUT FOR A SWIM? IN THOSE CLOTHES...

SFX - AHAHAHA!
I CAUGHT AN ABALONE AND A SEA URCHIN
ISN'T SOUSUKE-SAN AMAZING?
WE ALSO SAW A SQUID UNDERWATER
We even bought souvenirs
YUP!
WE WENT TO IZU.
YOSHIKO-SAN DID LONG-DISTANCE SWIMMING AND DIVING
LOOK HERE!
SFX - AHAHAHA!
HUSH! YOU'RE MAKING ME EMBARRASSED
DON'T BE MODEST, YOSHIKO-SAN! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A MAGNIFICENT SWIMMER!
LET'S TOAST TO YOU BEING DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL AND YOUR BIG CATCH FROM THE SEA!

SFX · EHHH!
SFX · AHAHAHA!
WHAT-EVER...
THANK YOU EVERYONE
I REALLY CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU TWO!
SOUSUKE -SAN!
AND EVEN YOSHIKO-MAMA!


AHAHAHA! WE'RE REALLY SORRY!
TRULY. WE HAVE INDEED CAUSED YOU TROUBLE
AH!
HEY, YOU CAN'T DRINK ALCOHOL!
YOSHIKO-SAN, HERE! DRINK SOME MILK INSTEAD
NO WAY!

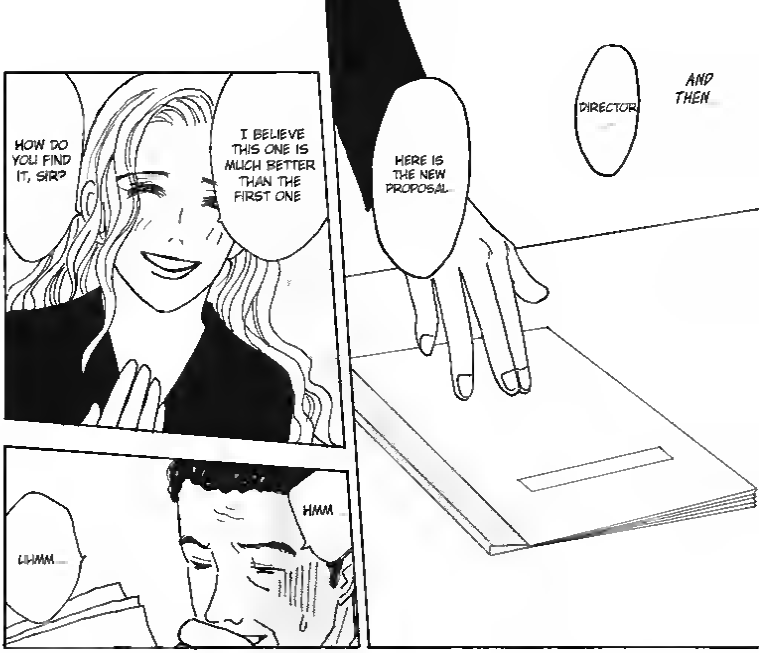

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US THAT YOU QUIT WORK?
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE KEPT IT FROM US.
SFX - HAHAHA!
WELL, A STOMACH ULCER CAN RESULT FROM STRESS.
LOTS OF JAPANESE SUFFER FROM IT.
SFX - HAHAHAHA!
SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE KNOWS ANYWAY
THAT'S NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.
YEP!
SFX - KON!
IT'S OKAY, MOM.
YOU SEE...
KATASU-YUKI...

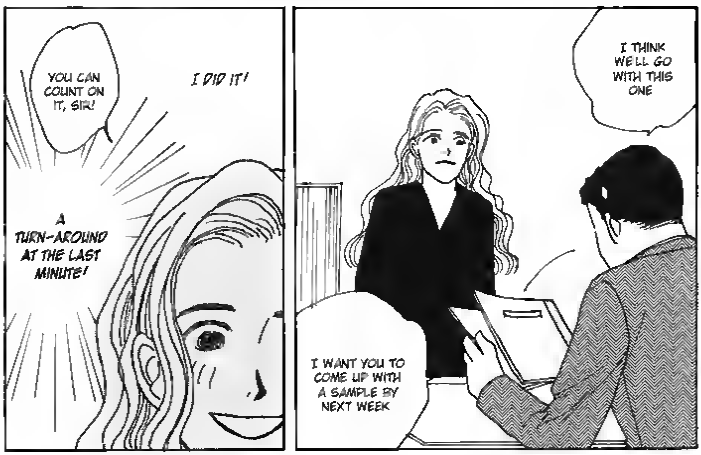
EH!?
IT'S MY FAULT.
I KNEW ABOUT THE ISSUE WITH EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OONISHI AND THE RIVALRY AMONG THE FACTIONS...
I KNEW THAT MOM, ACTING AS A SECTION CHIEF...
WAS ONLY DOING HER BEST TO RIDE THROUGH THE ISSUE.
...ACTING WITH TACT AND SHREWDNESS
BUT DIRECTOR IWAMOTO WHO HAS ALWAYS BACKED-UP MOM, COULDN'T DO A THING
IN THE END HE EVEN GOT DEMOTED...
MOM'S POSITION IN THE COMPANY BECAME UNSTABLE AT THAT POINT, AND AT THAT TIME I COULD UNDERSTAND IT.
I ALSO FORGOT ABOUT THAT

I'M SORRY, MOM
BUT I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT MY STUDYING ABROAD
IT WAS KATSUYUKI WHO GAVE ME THE STRENGTH TO GET TO WHATEVER POSITION I HAD
NO!
IT'S MOM WHO SHOULD SAY SORRY!
IT WASN'T YOU WHO CAUSED IT!
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, YOSHIKO-MAMA!
IT WAS I WHO SHOULD'VE THOUGHT OF KATSUYUKI MORE
EHH?!
BUT IT WAS INDEED I..
NO..

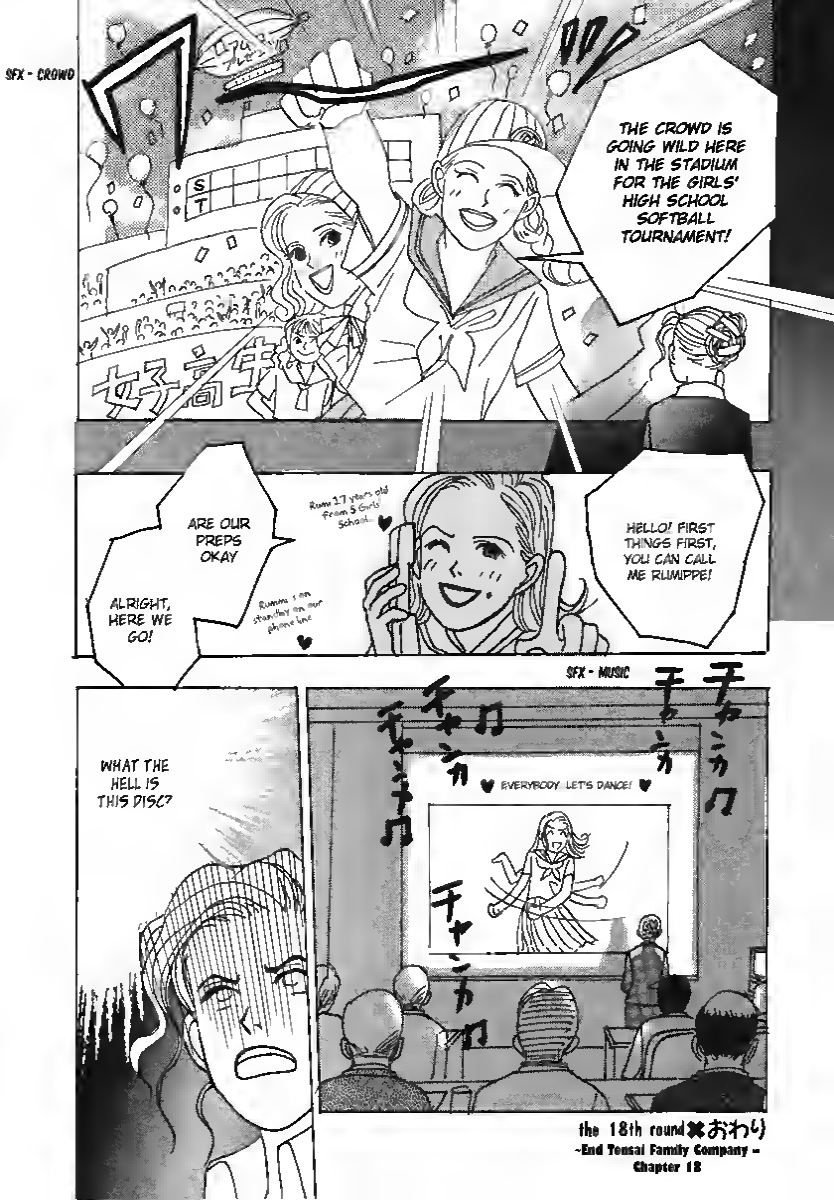
IT'S TRUE THAT DIRECTOR IWAMOTO GOT DEMOTED
WHICH EVENTUALLY CAUSED THE WAVERING OF MY POSITION IN THE COMPANY
AND IT DIDN'T HELP THAT THE FACTIONS WERE TEARING THE COMPANY APART
I FACED A LOT OF UNPLEASA-NTNESS
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
REVISE IT!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOOD AT THIS, NATSUKI-KUN
IT DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARD OF WHAT A SECTION CHIEF WOULD COME UP WITH

WHAT SHOULD I DO?
YOU'RE A WOMAN, THAT'S WHY!
I had really wanted to give up, but my pride couldn't stand it
By the way...
IT WAS DURING THE TIME OF DIRECTOR IGARASHI
IT WAS KATSUYUKI WHO HELPED ME THINK OF A DIET SNACK
OUR RIVAL COMPANY RELEASED A SIMILAR PRODUCT AT THE SAME TIME AND IT BECAME A HIT
DIRECTOR IGARASHI WAS SHOCKED TO SAY THE LEAST
BASUKO


AND THEN...
DIRECTOR
HERE IS THE NEW PROPOSAL
I BELIEVE THIS ONE IS MUCH BETTER THAN THE FIRST ONE
HOW DO YOU FIND IT, SIR?
HMM
UHMM...


I THINK WE'LL GO WITH THIS ONE
I WANT YOU TO COME UP WITH A SAMPLE BY NEXT WEEK
I DID IT!
YOU CAN COUNT ON IT, SIR!
A TURN-AROUND AT THE LAST MINUTE!

Plans for the new stock and merchandise will be set during the management meeting.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS FOR THE PROJECT TO BE GREEN-LIT BY MANAGEMENT AT OUR NEXT MEETING
THE SAMPLES ARE DONE!
TODAY, WE FIND OUT WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL NEEDS TO BRING WITH HER ALL THE TIME
THE CONCEPT THIS TIME IS "INSIDE THE BAG OF A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL."
WE ARE NOW GOING TO SHOW YOU A SHORT VIDEO TO EXPLAIN THIS IDEA FURTHER.
PLEASE WATCH
HUH?


SFX - CROWD
THE CROWD IS GOING WILD HERE IN THE STADIUM FOR THE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT!
HELLO! FIRST THINGS FIRST, YOU CAN CALL ME RUMIPPE!
Rumi 17 years old From S Girls School
ARE OUR PREPS OKAY
Rumi: I am standing on our drama line
ALRIGHT, HERE WE GO!
SFX - MUSIC
チャンカ
EVERYBODY LET'S DANCE!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS DISC?

KAPPA-SCANS.FORUMOTION.COM
HORRIBLESCANS.FORUMOTION.COM

TRANSLATOR: DAKOTASAPPHIRE
CLEANER: HAOHAO229900
PROOFREADER: WONDERBOLTSF
TYPESETTER: BLAME THE PIXIE
OCER: STALKER

HI MANGA READERS!!!
HORRIBLE SCANS IS NOW RECRUITING JAPANESE TO ENGLISH TRANSLATORS AND CHINESE TO ENGLISH TRANSLATORS!!!

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN APPLYING, YOU CAN SEND A EMAIL TO ME AT:
HORRIBLESCANS@GMAIL.COM
OR YOU CAN GO TO OUR FORUM SITE AT:
HORRIBLESCANS.FORUMOTION.COM AND REGISTER AND APPLY TO BE A TRANSLATOR STAFF.

EXPERIENCE AND NON EXPERIENCE TRANSLATORS ARE WELCOME, ALL I ASK FOR YOU IS THAT YOU AT LEAST KNOW THE LANGUAGE AND BE DEDICATED TO HELPING!!!